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Facsimile 687-5856

Water Quality Planning  
Water Pollution Control  
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Mining Regulation & Reclamation  
Facsimile 684-5259

State of Nevada  
KENNY C. GUINN  
*Governor*



ALLEN BIAGGI, *Director*

Air Pollution Control  
Air Quality Planning  
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Waste Management  
Federal Facilities

Corrective Actions  
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DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
**DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

901 South Stewart Street, Suite 4001  
Carson City, Nevada 89701 -5249

November 15, 2005

### Notice of Proposed Action

The Administrator of the Division of Environmental Protection gives notice that an application for Renewal of Water Pollution Control Permit (WPCP) NEV0091045 for the Argenta Mine and Mill has been properly filed with the Division of Environmental Protection in Carson City. The applicant for the major modification of WPCP NEV91045 is:

Baker Hughes Drilling Fluids  
P.O. Box 277  
Battle Mountain, Nevada 89820

The facility is located in Lander County, within Township 32 North, Range 47 East, in Sections 6, 18, and 19; and within Township 32 North, Range 46 East, in Sections 13 and 24, approximately 11 miles northeast of the town of Battle Mountain, Nevada.

The Argenta Mine and Mill include open pits for the extraction of barite ore, waste rock and tailings impoundment facilities, a process plant for concentrating barite and a packaging facility.

The Administrator is constrained to issue the water pollution control permit, or to deny the application. The Administrator has made the tentative determination to renew the permit.

Persons wishing to comment upon the proposed permit, to recommend terms and conditions for consideration of incorporation in the permit, or who request a public hearing pursuant to the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) Chapter 445A, must submit their written comments, objections, or requests no later than 5:00 pm, December 23, 2005, to:

Nevada Division of Environmental Protection  
Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation  
901 South Stewart Street, Room 4001  
Carson City, NV 89701-5249

All comments or objections received during the public notice period will be considered in the final determination regarding this application. If the Division determines written comments or requests indicate a significant degree of public interest in this matter, the Administrator shall schedule a public hearing in accordance with the requirements of NAC 445A.405.

The permit renewal information and all application documents are on file at the Division and are available for public inspection and copying pursuant to NRS 445A.665. For more information contact Rob Kuczynski, P.E. at (775) 687-9441, or toll free in Nevada (800) 992-0900 ext. 4670, or visit the Bureau's website at <http://ndep.state.nv.us/bmrr/bmrr01.htm>.